

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 8-12 are pending in the application. Claims 2, 5, and 7 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 4, and 6 have each been amended to clarify that the method, computer program, and system of the respective claims provides a concrete, useful, and tangible result. In particular, claims 1, 4, and 6 have been amended to recite “providing a result useful in applications including password generation, convergent signature analysis, and encryption”. Support for the amendment is found at least in the original specification at page 8, paragraph [0065]. Claims 1, 4, and 6 have each been further amended to more particularly point out and claim the invention. In particular, claims 1, 4, and 6 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of cancelled claims 2, 5, and 7, respectively. Claim 4 has been amended to clarify that the claim is directed to a computer program product. Consistent with this amendment of claim 4, the specification at page 9, paragraph [0069] has been amended to clarify that in one aspect the invention is directed to a computer program capable of being stored on a storage or memory device. Claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 1, rather than from cancelled claim 2. Likewise, claims 9 and 12 have been amended to depend from 4 rather than from cancelled claim 5 and claim 8 has been amended to depend from claim 6, rather than from cancelled claim 7. Claims 9 and 12 have been further amended to recite a “computer program product”, consistent with amended claim 4. No new matter has been added by the foregoing amendments.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §101 – Claims 1-12

The Examiner has claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §101, as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. In particular, the Examiner states that claims 1-12 failed to recite a practical or physical application or a useful and tangible result. Further, with reference to paragraph [0069] of the specification, the Examiner states that claims 4, 5, 9, and 12 are directed to non-tangible program storage. Independent claims 1, 4, and 6 have been amended to recite “providing a result useful in applications including password generation, convergent signature analysis, and encryption”. Claim 4 has been further amended to recite “a computer program product”. Consistent with this amendment of claim 4, the specification at page 9, paragraph [0069] has been amended to clarify that in one aspect the invention is directed to a computer program

capable of being stored on a storage or memory device. In view of the amendments to the claims and specification, Applicants respectfully submit that the issues relating to 35 U.S.C. §101 raised by the Examiner have been addressed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §112 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102 – claims 1, 4, 6, and 11

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4, 6, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,142,240 (Ward *et al*). In view of the amendments to claims 1, 4, and 6, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 1, 4, 6, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

Claims 1, 4, and 6 have been amended to recite the subject matter of claims 2, 5, and 7, respectively. Given that claims 2, 5, and 7 were not rejected under either 35 U.S.C. §102 or 35 U.S.C. §103, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 4, and 6 now recite allowable subject matter. Claim 11 is allowable based at least upon claim 11's dependence upon allowable claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 4, 6, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

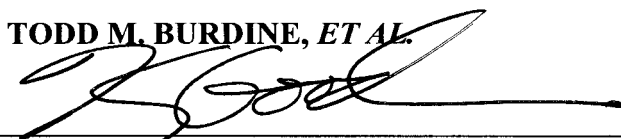
In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 8-12, is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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